

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 02355 120951 Z

11

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
----- 049244

O 120930 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1823

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEHRAN 2355

EXDIS

E. O. 11652; GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, IU, IZ

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE IRANIAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR KUWAIT

REF: TEHRAN 2333

1. DURING APRIL 11 PRIVATE LUNCHEON WITH SENATOR ABBAS MASSOUDI WE RECEIVED RATHER DEFINITIVE CONFIRMATION THAT OUR ASSESSMENT OF IRANIAN POSTURE TOWARDS KUWAITE- IRAQI CONFLICT IS ESSENTIALLY CORRECT. MASSOUDI, WHO IS CLOSE TO SHAH, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM 22- DAY VISIT TO GULF STATES. WE CAN ASSUME MASSOUDI' S VIEWS REPRESENT THOSE OF SHAH.

2. AS BACKGROUND, MASSOUDI EXPLAINED THAT IRAN HAD SEVERAL TIMES SOUGHT TO BRING KUWAIT AND OTHER ARAB STATES ON GULF, EXCEPT IRAQ, INTO A DEFENSE ARRANGEMENT WITH IRAN. LATTER' S EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD HAVE ATTRACTED LITTLE SUPPORT IN KUWAIT AND SAUDI REACTION HAS BEEN COOL. LACKING ANY CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS, IRAN WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT RESPOND TO KUWAITI REQ- UEST FOR MILITARY SUPPORT EVEN IF IRAQ COMMITS AGGRESSION AGAINT KUWAIT AND SEIZES WARBAH AND BUBIYAN ISLANDS. HOWEVER, IF OTHER GULF LITTORAL STATES SHOULD RALLY TO KUWAIT' DEBANNER, IRAN WOULD JOIN WITH THEM. MASSOUDI CLEARLY SAW NO LIKELIHOOD OF THIS OCCURRING.

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 02355 120951 Z

3. WHAT EMERGED FROM THIS DISCUSSION WAS STRONG IMPRESSION THAT  
GOI  
WOULD CONSIDER IT UNWISE TO COME TO KUWAIT' S DEFENSE UNILATERALLY  
AGAINST ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY AND FURTHER THAT IT NOT IN IRAN' S  
INTEREST ( AND THAT OF U. S.) FOR IRAN TO STAND ALONE IN DEFENSE  
OF KUWAIT AGAINST AN IRAQ ALLIED WITH USSR.  
HELMS

SECRET

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** POSSIBLE IRANIAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR KUWAIT  
**TAGS:** MASS, IR, IZ  
**To:** AMMAN  
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KUWAIT  
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